

THE MICHIGAN WWII LEGACY MEMORIAL

America wasn't ready for war when FDR called on the nation to be the "Arsenal of Democracy" in 1940.

Michigan changed that.

The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial is officially recognized by the state as its tribute to Michigan's contributions during WWII.

OUR MISSION

To honor Michigan residents who served in the armed forces and on the home front during World War II.



Photo credit: Peter Balaya Photography



GRASSROOTS BEGINNING

The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial had a humble beginning in 2007 as Honor Flight Michigan. We raised funds to



take 1,400 WWII veterans, on 33 flights, to visit the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. After four and a half years of taking Michigan to the Memorial, we decided to bring the Memorial to Michigan.

CONTACT US

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Legacy Memorial

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THE MICHIGAN

WWII LEGACY Memorial

HONORING SACRIFICE. CELEBRATING FREEDOM.



DON'T LET OUR
HEROES
FADE AWAY



BRAINS AND BRAWN

No one imagined a plant that could build one bomber an hour when Henry Ford said it, but

Ypsilanti did it.

No one imagined a single tank plant would outproduce all of Germany, but

Warren did it.

No one imagined two lima practice landings would be held on a small island in the Detroit River, but

Belle Isle did it.

No one imagined 300 million tons of iron ore would move from mines to mills, but

Sault Sainte Marie and the Great Lakes did it.

No one imagined a production plant would turn milkweed pods into 1.2 million life vests, but

Petoskey did it.

No one imagined how 2% of the nation's population could contribute 10% of the material for the war, but

Detroit did it.

The Time is Now

Michigan's remarkable contribution to WWII is undeniable. The home front saw unprecedented innovation and production. Michigan became known as the "Arsenal of Democracy" and was the birthplace of Rosie the Riveter. Over 620,000 Michigan residents served in the armed forces. 15,458 never came home. Many of our heroes have already faded into history. Don't let their legacy fade away too.

Honor them now.

Join The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial's efforts to honor Michigan's Greatest Generation.

How You Can Help

Donate and volunteer to help complete this lasting tribute. Individual donors, corporations and foundations are our primary sources of financial support. No public funds are being used. The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial is an all volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization.

Educating Future Generations

The best way to keep Michigan's WWII legacy alive is to teach future generations about the selfless sacrifices of these men and women and the industrial spirit that won the war. To tell this story, an online curriculum and on-site technology will be available for classrooms, civic organizations and families to inspire hearts and minds.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE MICHIGAN WWII LEGACY MEMORIAL

- **Walk of Honor:** Tells stories of individuals and groups through inscribed brick pavers
- **Wall of Stars:** Honors Michigan lives lost
- **Pillars:** Tells how Michigan supported the war through Service, Sacrifice, Labor, Industry, Commitment and Change
- **Walkable Michigan Map:** Shows points of military, industrial, and social interest
- **Life-size, bronze sculptures:** Represents forces on land, air and sea with home and war front perspectives
- **Ring of Honor:** Recognizes named sponsors



Artist rendering of The Michigan WWII Legacy Memorial, to be located in Memorial Park, 13 Mile and Woodward, Royal Oak.